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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Mario STEINBORN, Rainer PETZOLD and Martin
MILLER
Serial no. : 10/586,518
Confirmation No. :
Filed : with an effective filing date of February 2, 2005
For : SHIFTING UNIT
Group Art Unit : 3753
Examiner : Craig J. PRICE
Docket : ZAHFRI P874US

The Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF
TIMELY FILED INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Upon reviewing this application, it has come to the attention of the undersigned that all of the prior art which was timely and properly made of record in this case has not been substantively considered by the Examiner. Specifically, the Applicant prepared and timely filed an Information Disclosure Statement, along with PTO/SB/08a/08b and copies of the necessary citations (a copy of the returned postcard, the submitted Statement and PTO/SB/08A/08b is attached, if copies of the citations are again required, please immediately contact the undersigned), under a July 18, 2006 Express Mailing Date. The Examiner has not confirmed to the undersigned, by signing and returning a copy of PTO/SB/08a/08b, that such references were substantively considered. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner consider the same at this time.

It is submitted that the allowed claims are distinguishable over all of the prior art of record, including these references which were not previously considered. However, in the event that the Examiner believes further prosecution of this application is warranted in view of this

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newly considered art, the Examiner is invited to withdraw this case from issue and provide the Applicant with a further action on the merits.

As all of this prior art was previously made of record in this case in a timely manner, it is respectfully submitted that Petition and/or an official fee is **not** necessary and the Examiner is required to substantively consider the same at this time. If any further action on the part of the Applicant is required in order for the Examiner to substantively consider this art, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney immediately.

In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,



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1407 DocId:32810000 18 JUL 2006

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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008: OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Mario STEINBORN et al.
Art Unit	
Examiner Name	
Attorney Docket Number	ZAHFRI P874US

Sheet 1 of 1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ²	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
✓	A1	US-6,223,763 B1	05/01/2001	MEYER et al.	Equiv. to EP-0 978 440
✓	A2	US-6,467,264 B1	10/22/2002	STEPHENSON et al.	
	A3	US-			
	A4	US-			
	A5	US-			
	A6	US-			
	A7	US-			
	A8	US-			
	A9	US-			
	A10	US-			
	A11	US-			
	A12	US-			
	A13	US-			
	A14	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ² No.* Kind Code ³	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁴
✓	B1	GB-2 163 224 A	02/19/1986	HIRANO et al.		✓
✓	B2	EP-0 978 440 A2	02/09/2000	MEYER et al.	Face page only Equiv. to 6,223,763	
✓	B3	DE-197 56 638 A1	06/24/1999	PETZOLD	Abstract	
✓	B4	DE-100 29 497 A1	01/10/2002	BIRK et al.	Abstract	
✓	B5	EP-1 338 802 A2	08/27/2003	PFAFF et al.		
	B6					
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

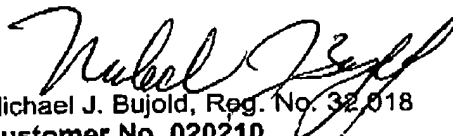
Dear Sir:

In connection with this matter, the Applicant hereby attaches United States Patent Office Form PTO/SB/08a and copies of the information listed in the enclosed PTO/SB/08a form, unless otherwise indicated on such Form.

The concise explanation, concerning the now submitted foreign language documents, is found either on page 1 of the specification of the present application or on the submitted International or German Novelty Search Reports (see MPEP § 609). Also enclosed, please find an English translation of the concise explanation, i.e., the category of relevance as asserted by the German searching authority, concerning the relevance of each foreign language document.

In the event that there are any fee deficiencies or additional fees are payable, please charge the same or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account (Account No. 04-0213).

Respectfully submitted,



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